Regarding WT Docket 05-235 (Elimination of Morse examination requirement)

A total elimination of the Morse code requirement would be a mistake. Dropping the code for the General class license (which I currently hold) makes sense. This would allow amateurs with no interest in the code to have access to nearly all of the HF frequencies. That said; I feel the test should remain in place for the Amateur Extra class license. Failing that, at least some type of endorsement should be present on the license of those passing the Morse examination. There are still some countries where proof of code ability is required before they allow foreign amateurs to operate. Without either retaining the requirement for one license class (Amateur Extra) or an endorsement on the license, U.S. amateurs would be unable to operate in those countries. It is also worth remembering that code still gets through when all other modes fail (an important consideration in a disaster or other national emergency).

Thank you for your time,

Jon M. Hager KD5NCX